meningitis. The number of deaths are as under:—

State	No. of deaths
Bihar	344 (upto 2-4-1989) 263 (upto 28-4-1989) 158 (upto 3-4-1989)
Gujarat	102 (upto 3-4-1989)
Delhi	58

(c) Research studies on the carrier status of contacts of meningitis cases carried out during epidemic as well as inter-epidemic period showed that the carrier rate among the contacts was quite low and simple chemotherapy such as sulphodiazine could lower the carrier rate.

Opening of creches in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

1802. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received representations from the Area Welfare Associations of Vasant Vihar C.P.W.D. Complex aTea, New Delhi for opening of Crechhes in that area during the year 1987 and 1988;

(b) if so, the number of such representations received and the action taken on each of them till date; and

(c) by when this facility is likely to be provided in that area

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Only one representation was received from the Residents Welfare Association, Government Housing Complex, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi in 1988. The Association \ concerned is not recognised by this Department Hence no action was considered necessary.

Cost of four atomic poweri stations

1803. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIR-U'TTINAN;
SHRI VIDUTHALAI VIRUMSI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 716 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1989 and state:

(a) what is the proposed cost of construction of the four additional atomic power stations, decided to be set up at Kaiga, Tarapur. Rawatbhatta and Kudankulam;

(b) whether there is any external aidl loan for these plants; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The cost estimates for construction of additional nuclear power reactors at Kaiga, Tarapur, Rawatbhatta and Kudankulam will be

known after project financial sanctions are accorded.

(b) and (c) The nuclear units at Kaiga, Tarapur and Rawabhatta are being set up on the basis of indegenous technology and hence are not covered by external aid or loan. The 2 x 1000 MWe nuclear power station proposed to be set up at Kudankulam is with Soviet assistance. An Inter Governmental Agreement between USSR and India on co-operation in setting up of the nuclear power station in India was signed on 20th November, 1983. A contract for setting up of the plant will be entered into after preparation Of the Detailed Project Report and establishing economic viability of the project. USSR has agreed to extend to India a 25 year credit for an amount upto 3200 Million Rouble at 2.5 per cent interest per annum.

Setting up of a National Science and Technology Panel

1804. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether he has been urged recently by the Science Advisory Council to set up a National Science and Technology Panel; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has constituted a Science and Technology Committee in November 1988 to define the structure of the new body to be created to carry out the planning and coordination functions in respect of S & T activities.

Purchase of consumer durable for Defence canteen

1805. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY;

SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria laid down by the Defence Canteen Sale/purchase department for purchases and enlistment of manufacturers/distributors/suppliers for consumer durable like food processing items, Edible Oils, Soaps anj detergents, plastic goods, Hosiery goods, Cosmetics, Stationery items, Watches, pressure cookers, umbrellas, tooth pastes and other general consumer durables etc. for defence canteen stores in the country;

(b) whether Defence Canteen Store department (India) purchases consumer durables named above through tenders or annual rate contracts or through negotiations;

(c) the names (with address) of the consumer durable suppliers of items referred to above, appoved and rejected, with reasons, partywise and itemwise and period of contract, terms, annual quantity allocated, partywise and itemwise during the last one year as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Before a product is accepted by the CSD for stocking and distribution, the supplier is required to satisfy it regarding a number of matters, including:—

(i) the popularity/acceptability of the product with consumers in general:

(ii) the quality of the product;

(iii) the reputation of the supplier;

(iv) the available arrangements for after-sales service; and